



The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society's **EXCITER**

GET INVOLVED

- RARS General Membership meeting: **Second Tuesday** of the month.
- The RARS net meets every night except Saturday @ 8 p.m. on 146.640.
- The RARS Technical & Trader's net: Saturdays @ 8:00 PM on 146.64.
- RARS meets for a monthly dinner on the **third Tuesday** of each month.
- On the **fourth Tuesday** of every month, in-person meeting at Ridge Road Baptist Church where there will be project tables, demos, snacks, and socializing.



PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

Interested in helping? Visit
<https://www.rars.org/public-service.php>

frequently for our ham public service schedule.

RARS General Meeting

Date: August 13, 2024

Main topic: "New Tools: the NanoVNA and the Tiny SA"

By: Lee Johnson, N4WYE

Time: Zoom Meeting at 7:30 PM,
informal gathering at 7PM

Next Month: "Making UHF work for TV: Lessons Learned"

By: Mark Nelson AJ2X.

RARS In Person Meeting

Date: August 27, 2024

Where: Ridge Road Baptist Church

Time: 7:00 PM

In-person meeting at Ridge Road Baptist Church where there will be project tables, demos, snacks, and socializing.

RARS Officers

PRESIDENT

Fin Gold
NC4FG
nc4fgfin@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Chuck Till
K4RGN
k4rgn@outlook.com

SECRETARY

Julie Royster
KT4JR
919-782-1624
KT4JR@arrl.net

TREASURER

Greg Seamster
KE4PAX
919.859.0029
KE4PAX@arrl.net



The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc. (RARS) was founded in 1969 and continues to serve and support the amateur radio community in the greater Triangle area. In 1999, the society incorporated a new RARS and obtained 501(c)(3) non-profit tax status.

The objectives of the club are to promote worldwide friendship through amateur radio; to be of public service by providing radio communications in times of disaster, emergency, or civic needs; to educate members in radio technique, and to provide training classes to assist in obtaining amateur radio licenses.

Anyone interested in amateur radio is eligible to apply for membership. Regular dues for licensed amateurs are \$18 per year. (From July 1 through June 30.) Additional licensed immediate family members pay \$5 each per year. Dues for licensed full-time students and licensed seniors 60 and over are \$12 per year. Unlicensed individuals may become associate members for \$9 per year. Applications for membership are available from the treasurer or on the RARS web site.

<https://www.rars.org>

Exciter

The Exciter is the official newsletter of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society. It appears each month as a PDF on the RARS website at www.rars.org. Members receive email notification when the latest version is available. Please provide your email address to the Treasurer.

The Exciter welcomes articles, advertisements, and other contributions. To submit a piece to the newsletter, please contact the Editor. The Editor reserves the right to edit any and all pieces. The submission deadline for each month's Exciter is the Saturday that is ten days before the general meeting. All submissions must be final. Drafts are not accepted.

The views expressed in the Exciter are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor or RARS.

Tom Lewis, N4TL, editor (editor@rars.org)

Exciter President's Message for August 2024

Free Park-ing

As I watched the operators at last weekend's Parks-On-The-Air (POTA) event, I noticed the attendees taking turns so that each ham could get their park activation of 10 calls. In the background, the other hams talked about antennas, band conditions, other parks, and their favorite accessories. Brantley, K4CBW, does a great job with the Portable Operating Group to get people out and participating (for free) in beautiful places.

All this involves the excitement of discovery as they learn how others play with their radios and related gear. People learning and others freely giving. It is a hallmark of our hobby to openly share our knowledge to enhance the experience of others.

Given that, we should all participate in the process of discovery and sharing. Tell the public about us. Share your skills by getting involved in the club. Come to the Gathering to show off your electronic creations. In a club of our size, there should be plenty of people interested in what you have to share.

When it comes to your specific interests, don't hesitate to hold your own meet-ups. You can use the Discord channels to organize and invite people. Need a custom channel for that? Just ask. Gather your group, pick a time and place to meet, and just learn and share.

Exciting Upcoming Milestones

A couple club changes to note:

- The monthly Board of Directors meeting will be on the 1st Tuesday of each month. Contact me directly if you want to listen in on the Zoom call.
- The August 2024 General Club meeting will be on August 13th. We need all hands on deck so we can pass the 24/25 budget! Please join the Zoom call at 7:30 PM at least for the beginning.
- The RARS Dinner each month will be on the 3rd Tuesday from now on.
- Starting in September, our General Club Meeting will be **IN-PERSON** (and on Zoom). That includes a 6PM new ham meeting and 7PM social time. Mark your calendars for September 10th.

For details on all this, go to the [RARS website](https://www.rars.org)

President's Message for July 2024, continued

The State Fair Exhibit and Special Event Station



As already announced on our [RARS Discord Server](#), the multi-club State Fair exhibit is open for signups! What a great opportunity to support our hobby as we educate the public alongside hams from other clubs. For more information and to volunteer to help staff the exhibit, here is the [SignupGenius link](#)

New this year, we'll be operating a **Special Event Station** as N4C on each Friday, Saturday, and Sunday of the Fair. Come help handle the pileups! For more information and to volunteer to help operate the station, here is the [Signup Genius link](#)

Stay cool and radio on!

73,

Fin Gold, NC4FG

President

Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

July 9, 2024 RARS meeting

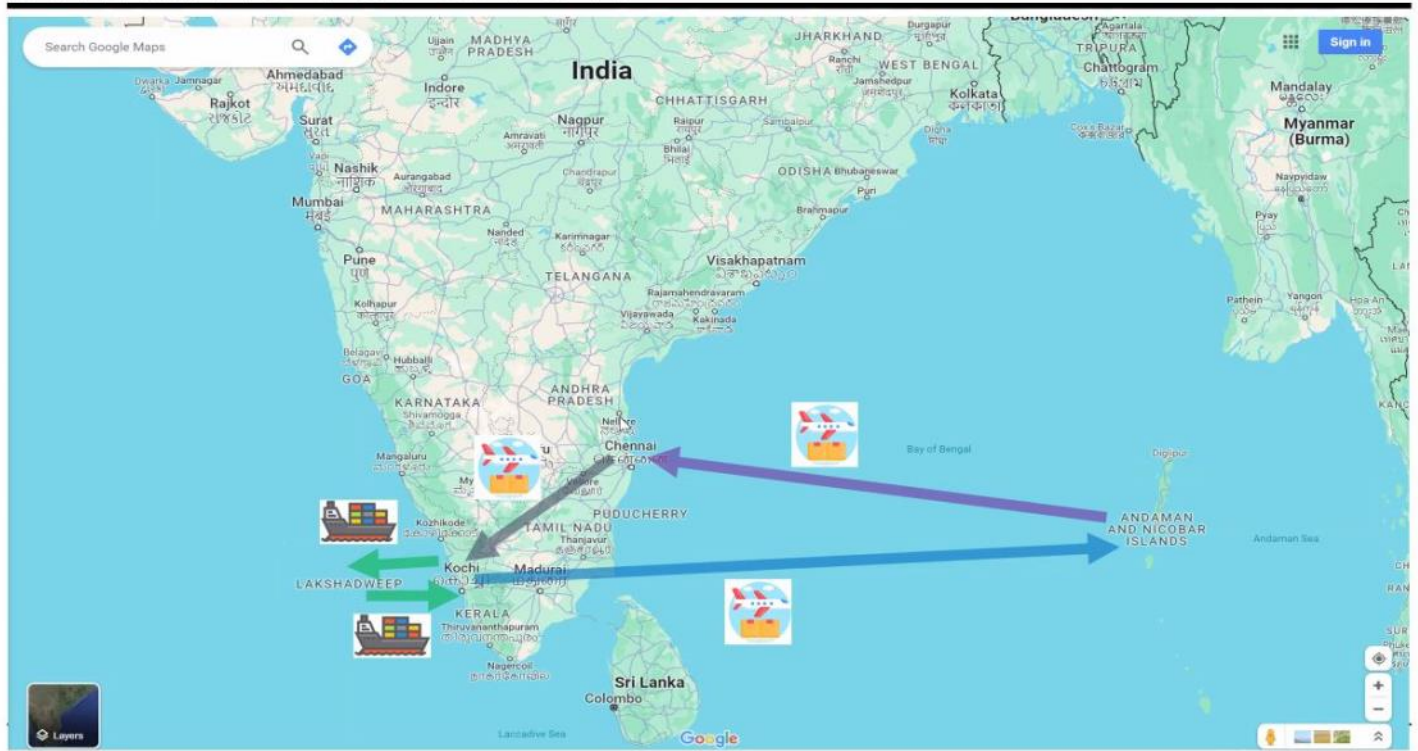
Fin Gold, NC4FG, RARS President, started the meeting at 7:30. The pledge of allegiance was recited. Various reports were given. See the [minutes](#) for more information about the meeting. Chuck Till, K4RGN introduced the presentation, VU4N & VU7A Expeditions By: Krish Kanakasapathi, W4VKU.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:33PM.



Krish , W4VKU operating VU7A

WHERE IS VU7 & VU4?



TIMELINES

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
11/26 Arriv In VU 	11/27-11/30 Pack and Ship air cargo daily(morning Qth work at night)   			12/1 	12/2 Fly to Kochi 	
12/3 To VU7 	12/4 – 12/5 Install station/antenna		12/6-12/9 VU7A Operation			
12/10-12/12 VU7A Operation			12/13 Equipment via Ship to Kochi 	12/14 Rest 	12/15 Return to Kochi and ai F:  	12/16 Leave for VU4, collect equipment fi and install station/ante: 
12/17 – 12/23 VU4N Operation						
12/24-12/27 VU4N Operation				12/28 Ship equipment by aircargo to Chennai  		



HEXBEAM

20-10 m

DXCOMMANDER

VERTICAL



July 9, 2024 RARS meeting, continued

 Tom N4TL, Raleigh	 Greg KE4PAX (Raleigh)	 NR4O Eric - Cary
 Chuck K4RGN Raleigh (Host)	 Jimmie KM4DJR Walnut Cove	 Paul
 Krishna Kanakasapapathi(W4VKU)	 Joe KM4WRQ, Apex, NC	 Ralph - KQ4RZI - Midtown, Raleigh
 ALAN AB4OZ RALEIGH	 John Hollowell	 Rich K7RLH Apex
 Bob K4RLC	 John Honeycutt, N8ZU, Hayward, CA	 Richard Kroeger N1FUA Apex
 Brantley K4CBW	 John Maruca KK4ETV	 Ted Rappaport
 Bruce KI4PAC	 Julie Royster KT4JR	 Tim KC1TWR Carborro
 Charles WB4DCM Raleigh	 Ken Latchum AD4GX Raleigh	 Tom NC4TS Lake Royale
 Charles_WA4OSS	 Kyle Smith	 Tony K1OC Apex
 Chuck, K4HF - Raleigh	 Larry K4LXV Raleigh	 WILBUR WD4RDT
 dennis wz0q Raleigh	 Mike KO7G Fuquay-Varina	 Will WA4GK Durham
 Doug AD4UL, Erie, PA	 Murray, K4MHM, Raleigh, NC	 Sherry - KE4LZE
 Doug N3LTV Raleigh NC	 N4BJH Joe Wake Forest	 MG
 Fin Gold NC4FG Raleigh	 Nancy KB2TNR	

41 people attended

Monthly In-Person RARS Gathering, July 23

Ridge Road Baptist Church, at [2011 Ridge Road, Raleigh](#)

The meeting starts at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall, but we start setting up at 6:00 pm, and you are welcome to bring your own ham radio equipment and projects to demonstrate, show off, or just work on with other like-minded hams -- we have plenty of tables. You might also find sources of coax, connectors, zip cord, Powerpoles®, and whatnot.

RARS Gathering Sign-in, 26 people signed in 30 attended

Name	Call Sign (or No Call)	RARS Member (Y/N)	Name	Call Sign (or No Call)	RARS Member (Y/N)
Dennis Mason	WZ0Q	Y	Chris Keelor	KB8RUA	Y
Fin Gold	NC4FG	Y	Tom Lewis	N4TL	Y
Doug Wall	N3LTV	Y	Paul R. Dugdell	KO4PZA	Y
Barry Wheeler	K9IUT	N	Robert E. Dugdell	KQ4ERD	Y
John Marcua	KK4ETV	N	Stephen Haffly	NY4NC	Y
Patrick M Hannon	K3PMH	Y	Mike Kelley	KO4PAS	Y
Ralph Selmont	KQ4RZI	Y	Joe Haggerty	N4BJH	Y
Rahul Patel	N4RWZ	N	Will	WY5I	Y
Darrell Gordon	W4CX	Y	Katie Farmer	KQ4TIF	Y
Tony O'Connor	K1OC	Y	Tadd Torborg	KA2DEW	Y
David Burt	W4OFO	Y	Nancy Torborg	KB2TNR	Y
Jeremy Lindsley	K2HJX	Y	Greg Seamster	KE4PAX	Y
Charles Swindell	WB4DCM	Y	Richard Kroeger	N1FUA	Y

Monthly In-Person RARS Gathering, Continued



Three at the table, Craig; Doug Wall, N3LTV; Charles Swindell, WB4DCM;
Standing. Barry Wheeler, K9IUT; Dennis Mason, WZ0Q; Joe Haggerty N4BJH

RARS Gathering, picture

RARS Dinner change

As of August 2024, the **RARS Dinner** will take place on the **THIRD Tuesday** of each month. We switched it with the Board of Directors meeting (now on the first Tuesday of each month) to optimize club decisions and votes. The next BoD meeting will be August 6, 2024. **The next RARS Dinner will be August 20, 2024.**

Please go to the website for details on location and time (which have not changed).

Chuck Till K4RGN, RARS VP

Cary hamfest testing



Four hams complete their testing at the Cary Swapfest Saturday July 20th.
One earned his Tech license two others their General and the fourth one
his Extra!
All earned what they studied for.

Ralph Selmont, KQ4RZI. General.
Ian Boyd, KQ4SNY. General.
Brad Crochet, WA5NJR. Extra.
Wesley Schultz, KQ4UAA, Technician.

Congratulation to all four.

-Doug N3LTV

ARRL Roanoke Division

Members of the ARRL Roanoke Division, (in which we live) are about to elect a Director and Vice-Director. They will serve 3-year terms beginning in January. Formal statements from the candidates will be available in early September. Balloting will then take place until November 15.

Most likely the incumbent Director, Jim Boehner, N2ZZ and the incumbent Vice Director, Bill Morine, N2COP will run for re-election. Jim Talens, N3JT has announced he is running for Director. Other candidates may emerge this month.

The ARRL North Carolina Section Manager, currently Marvin Hoffman, WA4NC is elected on a different schedule.

Chuck Till, K4RGN

Volunteers needed for our in-person general membership meeting.

Volunteers are needed for specific roles at our in-person general membership meetings that start in September.

1. Arrive by 6:45 pm and help to set up the room... tables and chairs.
2. Stay after the meeting adjourns and put the tables and chairs away, like we found them.

You are welcome to help with both 1 and 2, or sign up for only either of them.

We need four people who can commit to #1 and four people who can commit to #2 on an ongoing basis. You can skip meetings as necessary, but with four volunteers each we will have enough volunteers to cover every meeting.

Members who advocated for a return to in-person meetings are especially invited to volunteer for this.

The link to sign up is <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4FA8A728A1FACF8-50433411-general> . You do NOT have to create a SignUpGenius account to sign up.

Chuck Till K4RGN, RARS VP

<https://www.rars.org>

RARS Member Birthdays

Darrel	KD4CMA	08/02
Clement	KD4BMA	08/08
Greg	KQ4QXA	08/08
Eric	NR4O	08/10
Andy	AA9P	08/10
Manny	KB4NC	08/14
Denny	KO4IBL	08/17
Bernard	W4BRB	08/17
Mike	KM4BJV	08/18
John	WA4JC	08/18
Chuck	W3WZN	08/19
Bonnie	KK4OAK	08/19
Al	KE4IHX	08/20
Mike	KN4DRN	08/21
Andy	KG4UMU	08/21
Barry	KD4WTI	08/22
Steve	N4BTS	08/22
Jim	W8MGZ	08/22
Craig	KY4WM	08/24
Hal	K4NKR	08/24
Al	K4GOE	08/25
Jeremy	K2HJX	08/26
Bill	KQ4FZQ	08/27
David	KN4QT	08/29
JB	KJ4ACB	08/30
Mike	KK4ETS	08/30

RARS New Members

Ed Barrows	KI4WIB
Ian Boyd	KQ4SNY
Tom Gillan	KG3Z

October Auction Help needed

With our return to in-person general membership meetings starting in September, we will have the traditional RARS Auction at the October meeting. I have identified an auctioneer, but I need someone to manage the inventory. This means organizing the data for the auctioneer, printing info sheets for the items, arranging items and info sheets on tables for inspection prior to the auction, etc.

Note that people with items to be auctioned must physically bring the items to the auction themselves and take them home if they don't sell. The inventory manager is NOT responsible for transporting items.

This role is absolutely essential if we are to have the auction. To volunteer, email me directly at k4rgn@outlook.com.

- Chuck Till, K4RGN, RARS VP

July 2024 RARS Net Report

31 2m nets: 350 checkins, 654 minutes
3 6m nets: 34 checkins, 38 minutes
1 10m net: 6 checkins, 12 minutes

RARS Technician License Class Scheduled

RARS is holding Ham Radio Technician Training Classes on August 31, September 7 and September 14, 2024. These classes will help prepare new HAMs to take the test for their first license. Classes will be held at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 7000 Creedmoor Road, Raleigh. The classes will be taught on three consecutive Saturday mornings. The classes will be held from 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM on each Saturday. The classes will cover the material you need to know to pass the exam for the entry-level amateur radio license. Instruction will be based on the "ARRL Ham Radio License Manual, 5th Edition", available from the <https://www.arrl.org/> and <https://www.amazon.com/>.

For more information or **to reserve a seat in the class, please contact Denny Oestreich**, the RARS Education Director, at OestreichD@AOL.com or telephone number 919-846-8163. And tell those friends whom you have been trying to get to join the HAM hobby!

73 Denny Oestreich, KO4IBL

HAM RADIO LUNCHEON

Everyone is welcome!

Every Thursday at 11:15 AM, New York Diner,
909 McKnight Drive Knightdale.

<https://www.facebook.com/NewYorkDinerNC>

Check the latest information on the AB40Z QRZ entry. [QRZ.COM](https://www.qrz.com).

Six meter net

Join us Mondays at 8:30PM on 50.200 USB. Every one is invited. This is an informal net run by our vice president Chuck Till, K4RGN. After the SSB net, on the first Monday of the month we will QSY to 50.400 AM. Its interesting to hear the difference between SSB and AM.

<https://www.rars.org>

Summary of RARS Member Communication Channels

As the club improves the tools we use to communicate, we'd like to summarize the ways to contact each other.

Constant Contact:

- An email server through which the RARS leadership will send announcements to RARS members
- Our only reliable way to message all members
- For example, the announcement about the monthly Exciter newsletter

Discord:

- An online discussion forum for members and non-members
- Channels for specific topics
- A great place to ask questions and follow on-going discussions
- Click [HERE](#) to open it if you already joined
- If you haven't joined yet, click [HERE](#) to join Discord
- See this [RARS website page](#) for more details

RARS Groups.io:

- Email server for member and non-member announcements
- For topical questions or discussions, use Discord instead
- Posts should be for a broad audience
- RARS groups.io [Web page](#)
- To post, send an email to rars@groups.io, to subscribe: rars+subscribe@groups.io, to unsubscribe: rars+unsubscribe@groups.io

Facebook Page:

- Outgoing only posts to those interested in RARS
- Announcements from RARS to a broader audience
- Here is the [RARS Facebook page](#)

Facebook group:

- Moderated facebook posts to those interested in RARS
- Often includes shares and post from other parties
- Moderated means we filter for appropriate content
- Here is the [RARS Facebook group](#)

RARS-L:

- FORMER Email server for members only
- Became unreliable in 2024 and will be retired
- Members can use groups.io or Discord instead
- RARS leadership will use Constant Contact instead

Portable Operating Group at Raven Rock State Park

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society Portable Operating Group gathered at Raven Rock State Park bridle trailhead on the north side of the Neuse River this past July 28th. We enjoyed fabulously mild weather for a July morning and operated Parks on the Air for a few hours. We opted to avoid the main entrance and the potentially large volume of people likely to visit the park on such a beautiful morning. The trailhead parking lot is accessible via a dirt road and is made to accommodate horse trailers. It offered us ample shade and room for antennas.



Tailgate portable operation with linked dipole velcro'd to a canopy leg.



Club IC-718 operating on 20m, K4JAH at the microphone.

We got on the air with the club's IC-718 station and operated on 40m, then 20m, using a SOTABeams linked dipole antenna. The antenna was supported in the center by a fiberglass mast and was supported on the ends by pine limbs.

Portable Operating Group at Raven Rock State Park, continued



K4CBW operating with assistance from W4OFO, N1FUA, AA4XX, and KN4RFT. (L to R)



KJ4WRC operating with assistance from N1FUA, NC4FG, K4JAH, AA4XX, and KN4RFT. (L to R)

Some operators made their first POTA contacts as activators. Other operators were adding new bands or modes to their totals. A good time was had by all. The crowd dispersed as the temperature rose and lunch beckoned.

-bw/K4CBW

C. Brantley West, III

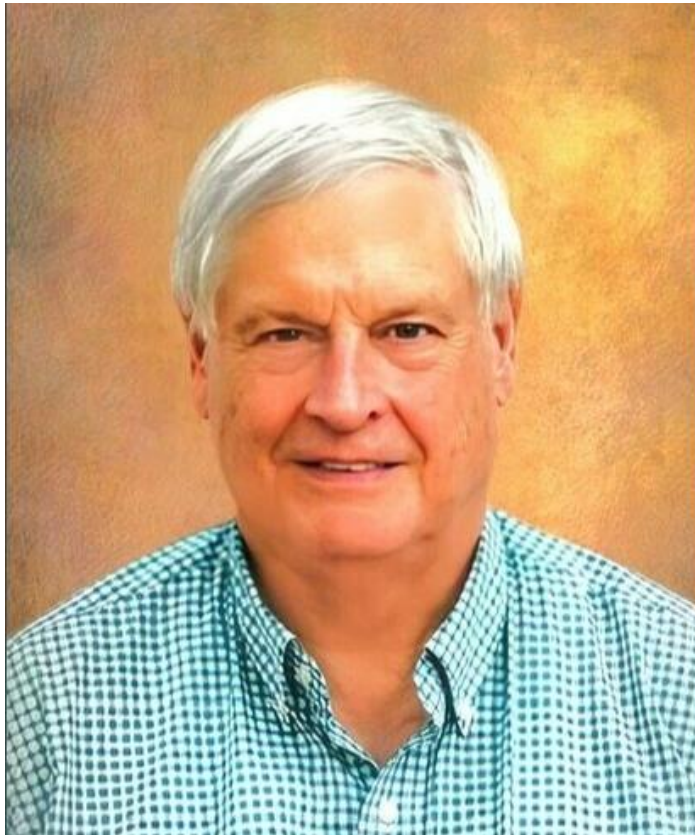
cbwest@gmail.com



Deepest Sympathies

A transfer of \$50 has been made to the RARS / Dick Bitner Youth Education fund in memory of **Jeff Scofield**, NW4Z, (August 29, 1947 – July 13, 2024)

[Jeffrey Scofield Obituary \(1947 - 2024\) - Cary, NC - The Herald Sun \(legacy.com\)](#)



Jeff Scofield, NW4Z, SK

RARS Repeaters in Raleigh & Nets

146.640 And 444.525, [click for link to RARS website.](#)

Join us for the nightly RARS net at 8 p.m. on the 146.640 repeater. All hams holding a Technician class license or higher are invited to check in. We welcome both RARS and non-RARS members to the net.

There is a net Listing on the RARS web-site click here. <https://www.rars.org/nets.php>

<https://www.rars.org>

RARS Classifieds

Copied from <https://www.rars.org/classifieds.php>

The items below were listed within the last 30 days on the RARS website.
Check the RARS Classified List on the RARS website regularly for new items.

FS: Icom IC-7300 HF rig w/ accessories

Posted August 4th, 2024 by: K4CBW

Contact: cbwest@gmail.com

Clean Icom IC-7300 HF radio for sale, shack-kept, no smoke or pets. Comes with all standard accessories (mic, power cord, etc), original box, optional carry handle, nylon dust cover, and SOTABeams Click2Tune. Pickup in Raleigh. \$800

Items for sale

Posted July 30th, 2024 by: WZ0Q

Contact: wz0q@outlook.com

intercom Radioshack 21-1845 1 unit only \$25.00

scanner RadioShack PPro-71 runs on 4AA's 100 channels \$30.00

scanner Uniden BC200xltcomes with 3 batteries(marginal) \$50.00

HT Yaesu FT470 Dualband with marginal battery, no charger.\$60.00

Charger Yaesu NC-50 Taletop drp in charger. \$50.00

Microphone Yaesu MH-29 speaker microphone with controls. \$50.00

contact Dennis

wz0q@outlook.com or 9194135998

LDG IT-100 antenna tuner and Icom IC-2730A dual-band VHF/UHF

Posted July 28th, 2024 by: KN4MJV

Contact: sergey.forms@gmail.com

LDG IT-100 antenna tuner - 120\$

Icom IC-2730A dual-band VHF/UHF mobile radio - ideal condition with box - 260\$

HF Yagi Hy-gain TH-7dx

Posted July 28th, 2024 by: KE4VNC

Contact: ke4vnc@gmail.com

Nice tri-band yagi in good shape. Currently disassembled so easy to take home. Pics on request or better yet come take a look in Wendell. (Email goes to my phone)

\$300 Billy

RARS Classifieds continued

New Foot Switch for Amp. \$20

Posted July 25th, 2024 by: KQ4ICK

Contact: garrydouglassmurray@gmail.com

New Foot Switch with RCA Plug \$20 Call; 919-859-2980 Garry

Baofeng UV-5R V2+

Posted July 25th, 2024 by: WZ0Q

Contact: wz0q@outlook.com

Have 2- Baofeng uv 5rv2+ HT s.

Both come with radio, antenna, 3 batteries

1 extended , 2-regular batteries. And drop in charger.

1 with manual, the other does not have a manual.

Asking \$20.00 Each.

919-413-5998, or email if interested.

Dennis Wz0q.

For Sale

Posted July 17th, 2024 by: KJ4WD

Contact: cjponto@bellsouth.net

- Palstar AT2K Antenna Tuner \$360.00
 - Rigol DS1102E 100 Mhz 2-Channel Digital Oscilloscope \$225.00
 - Hiland M12864 Transistor/Component Tester \$15.00
 - IMD Meter by kk7uq \$60.00
 - Kenwood TS-590S w/Astron Power Supply \$825.00
-

RARS Classifieds continued

For Sale - Chameleon Antenna CHA F-Loop3.0 Two Section Aluminum Radiator

Posted July 17th, 2024 by: W4BMX

Contact: tonylaszlo@hotmail.com

For Sale,

Chameleon Antenna CHA F-Loop3.0 Two Section Aluminum Radiator 10-40M with 7" Coupling Loop
\$150

Can text pictures.

Regards,

Tony

W4BMX

919 961-1813

Three Cavity Bandpass Filter

Posted July 12th, 2024 by: N2XZF

Contact: n2xzf.radio@gmail.com

Three cavity band-pass filter currently tuned for approx 73Mhz.

It can possibly be cut down to tune into 2 meters.

It is listed on EvilBay, and details can be found there.

<https://www.ebay.com/itm/276549057311>

Yaesu FT-450D HF + 6 meters

Posted July 10th, 2024 by: AD4GX

Contact: kalatchum@att.net

Yaesu FT-450D. HF+6 Meters 100watt Transceiver Like new condition. Original Mic and power cord with in line fuses. Asking \$600 (Note) I have a couple of pictures to send to you if interested!

Minutes, Board of Directors Meeting

Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

June 18, 2024

7:00 PM on Zoom

President Fin Gold NC4FG called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm. He asked if there were visitors but there were none. Secretary Julie Royster, KT4JR reported that a quorum was achieved. Those present were: Fin Gold NC4FG, Tony O'Connor K1OC, Tadd Torborg KA2DEW, Alan Pitegoff AB4OZ, John Honeycutt N8ZU, Brantley West K4CBW, Chuck Littlewood K4HF, Greg Seamster KE4PAX, Denny Oestreich KO4IBL, Nancy Torborg KB2TNR, Richard Kroeger N1FUA, Richard Hall K7RLH, and Julie Royster KT4JR.

Tony O'Connor moved to approve the minutes of the May Board Meeting; the motion was seconded and passed.

Old Business

- a) Brief review of and vote on resuming in-person meeting - Fin Gold, NC4FG President Gold reminded BofD members that the complete results of the "RARS In-person Meetings Survey Results" are posted on the Discord board-members-only thread, and comments should be posted there. He asked VP Chuck Till to read the motion proposed on Discord. Chuck Till moved to vote on the motion and this was seconded. A discussion ensued about details such as additional cost, the need for volunteers to set up the room and tear-down following the meeting, whether the hybrid format will be technically acceptable, whether the Zoom recording could be viewed later by members unable to stream the meeting live, and similar issues. Chuck Till moved to close discussion and this motion passed. Fin called for the vote and the motion passed unanimously. The text of the motion was: "Return to in-person hybrid meetings (if technically feasible) with the same format as before COVID starting in September with 4 months of evaluation before confirming it works". Fin will send an announcement to the club members about this change.

New Business

- a) Brief discussion about selling items at the RARS Gathering - Fin Gold, NC4FG
There were negative comments on groups.io with respect to sales, but the commenters were people who never attend the gathering. When we resume in-person club meetings we will have a sales table as we used to do. Fin states that the people who do the work on a

RARS Board of Directors Meeting minutes continued

project should be the ones we should listen to about how the project should be run. Tadd has been the organizer for the Gatherings so we should listen to his opinions. There was a discussion about whether to allow sales. Tadd thinks the purpose of the Gathering is to attract new people into the hobby. He does not want sales tables to obscure this purpose. Unlimited sales at the Gathering would interfere with its purpose. Fin put a motion into the chat as follows: "Anyone who wants to sell items at the Gathering must contact the organizer and get approval first." John Honeycutt moved to approve Fin's motion.; the motion was seconded and passed with one nay vote.

b) Review of Discord board-members-only "Email Groups Control" thread

Due to inaccurate and negative comments on groups.io, Fin asked the board to consider short-term moderation of discussions on groups.io. Discussion ensued of whether moderation is appropriate. Board members were encouraged to comment about this via Discord.

Officers' Reports

- a) Vice-President's Report – Chuck Till K4RGN: no report
- b) Treasurer's Report – Greg Seamster KE4PAX: no change from budget presented at club meeting
- c) Secretary's Report – Julie Royster KT4JR: Draft minutes will be completed faster in the future.

Committee Reports:

- a) Public Service Director Jeremy Lindsley, K2HJX (No report)
- b) Education Director Denny Oestreich, KO4IBL
A Technician license training class is planned for 8/31 through 9/17 with the same instructors as in the spring class. A room is reserved at the church for these dates. There were 14 students last time and 8 have now passed their license tests. The students appreciated learning about events happening at RARS, local repeaters, and local content not covered by the license tests.
- c) FM Repeater Chair Chuck DeCourt, W3WZN
Alan Pitegoff reports more intermod interference on the repeater due to weather. Fin Gold and Chuck Till have been working with Chuck DeCourt on a plan for equipment needed to ensure reliable repeater operation into the future.

RARS Board of Directors Meeting minutes continued

- d) RARSfest Chair Nancy Torborg, KB2TNR (No report)
- e) Exciter Editor Tom Lewis, N4TL
The copy deadline is 10 days before the meeting: June 29.
- f) Food Service Chair Richard Kroeger, N1FUA
There will be snacks at the Gathering and at Field Day.
- g) Net Manager Julie Royster, KT4JR: no report
- h) ARRL Liaison Chuck Littlewood, K4HF: no report
- i) RARS VE Coordinators Richard Hall, K7RLH
Testing will occur at the Gathering next week. This is the last time the current extra question pool will be used by RARS.
- j) RARS Webmaster Tony O'Connor, K1OC: no report
- k) Youth Chairman Brantley West, K4CBW: no report
- l) At Large Director Alan Pitegoff, AB4OZ: no report
- m) At Large Director Tadd Torborg, KA2DEW: no report
- n) At Large Director Ken Latchum, AD4GX: no report

Other reports or questions

Greg Seamster will ask for membership renewals in the July Exciter.

Adjournment

Following a motion by John Honeycutt which was seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Royster, KT4JR, RARS secretary

RARS General Membership Meeting minutes

7:30 PM on Zoom
July 9, 2024

1. President Fin Gold, NC4FG, called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm on Zoom. He welcomed participants and reminded them of several tips about using Zoom. He announced that RARS will resume in-person monthly club meetings in September with a hybrid Zoom option. RARS will soon be testing Constant Contact for outgoing emails to members. RARS wants to support the amateur radio booth at the State Fair in October by providing hams to help staff the booth on a daily basis. Volunteers do not need to bring a radio. President Gold asked whether there were new members, visitors, or newly upgraded members present; Kyle Smith KC3YHL identified himself as a visitor who recently moved to Raleigh.
2. President Gold asked Secretary Julie Royster, KT4JR, for a quorum call. She replied that there was not a quorum yet, so the approval of minutes was deferred.
3. Vice President's Report or announcements – Chuck Till, K4RGN
 - a) Request for volunteers to set up and take down the meeting room, starting September
 - b) Plea for a volunteer to manage inventory at RARS auction
 - c) We will have in-person speakers beginning in September
4. Secretary's Report or announcements – Julie Royster, KT4JR The minutes are up to date.
5. Treasurer's Report or announcements – Greg Seamster, KE4PAX We ended the fiscal year with 513 members, and we now have 517 total members with 505 voting members.

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RARS General Membership Meeting minutes continued

6. Specific Announcements or Reports from Directors

- A. Announcements from Alan Pitegoff, AB4OZ
quarterly 10 m net Saturday July 13 after the tech net
Salisbury fest July 13
Cary Swapfest at Ritter Park July 20
Fayetteville hamfest canceled
free AB4OZ hamfest August 13
- B. Announcement of next Board Meeting from Fin Gold NC4FG
The board meeting will be held at 7PM Tuesday, July 16th on Zoom, and anyone wishing to attend may get the link from Fin Gold.

7. Additional announcements or reports from Directors or Members:

- A. Brantley West K4CBW announced that the portable operating group will have an outing this month; anyone interested in participating in a steering committee for the group or offering suggestions, please contact Brantley.
 - B. Tom Lewis N4TL reminded members that input for the monthly Exciter issue is due 10 days before the next meeting. Acceptable file formats include Word, Excel, flat text files, and jpeg images, but **not** pdf files. If using an iPhone for pictures do not use the "live" setting.
8. VP Chuck Till, K4RGN, introduced the program at 7:44 pm. The presentation was titled "DX Expedition to the Indian Ocean" presented by Krish Kanakasapapathi W4VKU. At the conclusion of the talk Chuck Till and Fin Gold both thanked Krish Kanakasapapathi for his excellent, interesting program.
9. President Gold asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was so moved by Chuck Till, seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Royster KT4JR, RARS secretary